



# State of Alaska

Department of Public Safety  
Division of

# Alaska State Troopers

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor  
William Tandeske, Commissioner

Press release

7/22/2004

Location: Kotzebue

Case number: 04-33080

Public Information Office

(907) 269-5413

## Illegal Tobacco Sales

On 7/21/04 at approximately 1000 hours Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team in conjunction with the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives, Internal Revenue Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Alaska Department of Revenue, Kotzebue Police Department and Kotzebue AST patrol executed a search warrant on the residence of Daniel Myrick age 51, and his wife Darce Myrick age 44, both from Kotzebue. The search warrant was in response to the sale of illegally imported, non taxed cigarettes from Russia being sold from Kotzebue Gun and Pawn which is a pawn shop that the Myricks operate out of their home. The search warrant execution resulted in the seizure of 37 cartons of illegally imported Russian cigarettes, 37 liters of wine, 19.5 liters of distilled spirits and 24 liters of malt beverage. The cigarettes seized are valued at \$1665 and the alcohol was valued at \$3875. Both Daniel Myrick and Darce Myrick were arrested on Misconduct Involving Unstamped Cigarettes 1st and 2nd degree. Both individuals were transported to holding facilities in Kotzebue to await arraignments on the above charges. Kotzebue is a local option community limiting the amount of alcohol that can be possessed by a person at one time. The total amount of fines in this case against the Myricks for illegal cigarette trafficking is estimated at \$313,000.